"All the News That's Fit to Print"

The New York Times

Late Edition
Today, blustery, snow, high 34. **Tonight,** evening snow, six to 10 inches total snowfall, mostly cloudy, windy, low 30. **Tomorrow,** sunshine, windy, high 42. Weather map is on Page B8.

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U.S. Opposes New Warnings For Junk Food

In Nafta Talks, Guided by Big Companies

This article is by ***Azam Ahmed****,* ***Matt Richtel*** *and* ***Andrew Jacobs****.*

MEXICO CITY — The contentious negotiations over the fate of the North American Free Trade Agreement have veered into one of the world's most pressing health issues: fighting obesity.

Urged on by big American food and soft-drink companies, the Trump administration is using the trade talks with Mexico and Canada to try to limit the ability of the pact's three members — including the United States — to warn consumers about the dangers of junk food, according to confidential documents outlining the American position.

The American stance reflects an intensifying battle among trade officials, the food industry and governments across the hemisphere. The administration's position could help insulate American manufacturers from pressure to include more explicit labels on their products, both abroad and in the United States. But health officials worry that it would also impede international efforts to contain a growing health crisis.

Obesity has at least doubled in 73 countries since 1980. Many public health officials, worried about the rapid spread of highly processed foods, have found hope in a new tactic: the use of vivid warnings on foods with high levels of sugar, salt and fat.

Officials in Mexico and Canada — along with governments in Brazil, Peru, Uruguay, Argentina and Colombia — are discussing options like the use of colors, shapes and other easy-to-understand symbols that warn consumers of health risks. They were inspired in large part by Chile's introduction of stringent regulations in 2016 that include requirements for black stop-sign warnings on the front of some packages.

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VICTOR RUIZ CABALLERO FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Black warning logos on snacks at a kiosk in Santiago, Chile.

DOUG MILLS/THE NEW YORK TIMES

WHITE HOUSE WELCOME Saudi Arabia's crown prince, Mohammed bin Salman, was hosted by President Trump on Tuesday. Page A7.

Ex-Model Sues To Void Muzzle By Trump Ally

By JIM RUTENBERG and REBECCA R. RUIZ

A former Playboy model who claimed she had an affair with Donald J. Trump sued on Tuesday to be released from a 2016 legal agreement restricting her ability to speak, becoming the second woman this month to challenge Trump allies' efforts during the presidential campaign to bury stories about extramarital relationships.

The model, Karen McDougal, is suing The National Enquirer's parent company, which paid her $150,000 and whose chief executive is a friend of President Trump's. The other woman, the adult entertainment star Stephanie Clifford, better known as Stormy Daniels, was paid $130,000 to stay quiet by the president's personal lawyer, Michael D. Cohen. She filed a lawsuit this month.

Both women, who argue that their contracts are invalid, are trying to get around clauses requiring them to resolve disputes in se-

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DEFAMATION SUIT A judge said a former "Apprentice" contestant may sue the president. PAGE A14

Fed Up, Teachers in Oklahoma May Walk Next

Another Red Bastion Could Go the Way of West Virginia

By DANA GOLDSTEIN

TULSA, Okla. — When she woke up one morning last week, Tiffany Bell, a teacher at Hamilton Elementary School here, had $35 in her bank account.

On take-home pay of $2,200 per month, she supports her husband, a veteran who went back to school, and their three children, all of whom qualify for the Children's Health Insurance Program, a federal benefit for low-income families. The couple's 4-year-old twins attend a Head Start preschool — another antipoverty program.

Money is so tight for Ms. Bell, 26, that she had to think twice before spending $15 on Oreos for a class project, in which her third graders removed differing amounts of icing to display the phases of the moon.

She knew it would be hard to support a family on a teacher's salary. "But not this hard," she said.

When West Virginia teachers mounted a statewide walkout last month, earning a modest raise, it seemed like an anomaly: a successful grass-roots labor uprising in a conservative state with weak public sector unions. But just a few weeks later, the West Virginia action looks like the potential beginning of a red-state rebellion.

In Arizona, teachers clad in red, the color of the teacher protest movement, have conducted a series of #RedforEd demonstrations demanding higher pay. In Kentucky, teachers have organized rallies to protest proposed cuts to their pensions.

And in Oklahoma, where teachers have not had a raise from the state in a decade, they have vowed to go on strike on April 2 if the Legislature does not act to increase pay and education budgets.

All three states are paragons of austerity-minded budgeting, guided by a belief that taxes should be as low as possible to encourage people to spend more and companies to move there and grow. But one result has been a cutback in education, a sector in which a large and popular work force is finding it has labor muscles to flex after all.

"We are hemorrhaging from a lack of funding," said Larry Cagle, a Tulsa teacher and organizer of

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BRANDON THIBODEAUX FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Tiffany Bell, a third-grade teacher in Tulsa, Okla., struggles to make ends meet on her salary.

PRESIDENT'S CALL TO PUTIN DODGES TALK OF FOUL PLAY

GIVES CONGRATULATIONS

No Discussion of 2016 Meddling in U.S. or Attack on Ex-Spy

By MARK LANDLER

WASHINGTON — President Trump called on Tuesday to congratulate President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia on his re-election, but did not raise with him the lopsided nature of his victory, Russia's meddling in the 2016 presidential election or Moscow's role in a nerve agent attack on a former Russian spy and his daughter living in Britain.

Instead, Mr. Trump kept the focus of the call on what the White House said were "shared interests" — among them, North Korea and Ukraine — overruling his national security advisers, who had urged him to raise Russia's recent behavior.

"We had a very good call," Mr. Trump told reporters in the Oval Office, where he had just welcomed Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman of Saudi Arabia. "We will probably be meeting in the not-too-distant future."

The president's upbeat characterization came five days after his administration imposed sanctions on Russia for its interference in the election and for other "malicious cyberattacks," the most significant action it has taken against Moscow since Mr. Trump took office. The United States also joined Britain, France and Germany in denouncing the Russian government for violating international law for the attack on the spy, Sergei V. Skripal, and his daughter Yulia.

Both actions highlighted a contradiction at the heart of the Trump presidency: the administration's steadily tougher stance toward Russia and Mr. Trump's own stubborn reluctance to criticize Mr. Putin.

Mr. Trump, a senior official said, signed off on the sanctions and the harsh language in the administration's statements. But he was determined not to antagonize Mr. Putin, this person said, because he believes his leader-to-leader rapport is the only way to improve relations between the two countries.

That strategy has put Mr. Trump at odds with his own advisers: In preparing the president for the call, aides advised him to raise the nerve-agent attack and wrote on his briefing materials, "DO NOT CONGRATULATE." The Washington Post first reported these details.

A second official, however, said that while Mr. Trump's briefing cards did contain those suggestions, he spoke to his aides by phone and never saw the cards.

The White House also insisted that it was not the place of the United States to question how other countries conduct their elections — a contention that is at odds with years of critical statements about foreign elections by the United States, as well as recent statements by the Trump ad-

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Facebook's Lucrative Formula Under Pressure From All Sides

By CECILIA KANG

WASHINGTON — Federal regulators and state prosecutors are opening investigations into Facebook. Politicians in the United States and Europe are calling for its chief executive, Mark Zuckerberg, to testify before them. Investors have cut the value of the social networking giant by about $50 billion in the past two days.

They are all focused on the same thing: whether Facebook mishandled users' data.

Facebook has built its highly profitable social network off its users, selling advertisements based on their ages, interests and other details. But the scrutiny over the company's vast trove of personal data — following a report that a political consulting firm had improperly obtained information of 50 million users — is taking direct aim at that lucrative formula.

"Investors are reacting to fears of regulation and the consequences of regulation," said Brian Wieser, a senior research analyst at Pivotal Research Group. "The scale of errors can only lead one to conclude these are systemic problems."

So far, most of the social network's top executives have been silent. Mr. Zuckerberg, its founder, and Sheryl Sandberg, his top dep-

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C.E.O. SUSPENDED Cambridge Analytica acted after recordings of its chief emerged. PAGE A10

UNWELCOME CANDOR Facebook's departing security evangelist often ruffled feathers. PAGE B1

Hunt for the Texas Bomber: Solving a Life-or-Death Jigsaw Puzzle

This article is by ***Manny Fernandez****,* ***Serge F. Kovaleski*** *and* ***John Ismay****.*

AUSTIN, Tex. — The serial bomber who is terrorizing Texas' capital has not officially communicated with investigators. Yet, in some subtle ways, the bomber is doing just that with each explosive-rigged package that is found.

Law enforcement officials investigating one of the most brazen and deadly serial explosion cases in America in decades are struggling to read his bombs for any clues they can find. So far, five homemade explosive devices planted in packages and near sidewalks have detonated in Austin and near San Antonio this month, killing two people, wounding five.

On Tuesday morning, a sixth bomb, this one unexploded, forced the shutdown of a FedEx facility near Austin's airport. Hours later, the authorities said, an old military device donated to a Goodwill store went off in an employee's hands at a strip mall south of downtown, injuring a man in his 30s and setting off another scare in a city on edge. But officials determined it was not related to the earlier package bombings.

Officials have launched a sweeping manhunt, both forensic and physical, for the bomber, whose identity and motive remain unknown.

"It's such a random sending of these bombs," said Nelson W. Wolff, the top elected official in Bexar County, which includes San Antonio. "You've got somebody out there, or possibly more than one person, that's obviously got a system going, and that doesn't mean it couldn't be changed from one town to the other."

The explosions — the fifth was at a FedEx center near San Antonio early Tuesday morning — do

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INTERNATIONAL A4-10

Rhino Subspecies on Brink
The last male northern white rhino has died, but scientists hope to prevent the extinction of the animal. PAGE A8

Backyard Rinks Turn to Slush
Outdoor hockey is part of Canada's cultural identity. So what happens when winters get too warm to skate? PAGE A8

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Nixon's Premiere on the Trail
In a fiery opening to her campaign, the actress Cynthia Nixon questioned whether Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo was a "real Democrat." PAGE A19

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Shadows in the Recovery
Some economists say the recovery could continue for years. But many see the seeds of the next crisis. PAGE B1

A Remedy's Weakness
Tariffs meant to protect makers of metals will hamstring industries reliant on them, Eduardo Porter writes. PAGE B1

NATIONAL A11-18

Gay Bunny Tale Trolls Pences
John Oliver's parody of the Pence family's book about a pet bunny is topping the Amazon best-seller list. PAGE A12

Gunfire at Maryland School
A male student was fatally shot shortly after he began shooting, and two students were wounded. PAGE A18

FOOD D1-8

A Stuffed Ham to Savor
Unless you have lived in the southern part of Maryland or have celebrated a holiday there, you've probably never heard of this tasty dish. PAGE D1

SPORTSWEDNESDAY B10-14

Pitchers, Catchers, Plantains
Latino baseball players flock to Bravo, a supermarket near the Mets' training site in Florida whose cafeteria offers them a taste of home. PAGE B10

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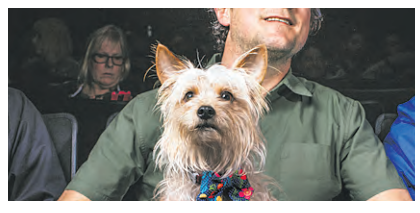
Thomas L. Friedman PAGE A23



ARTS C1-8

No Barking During the Movie
A sneak preview of "Isle of Dogs" in San Francisco was B.Y.O.D., or bring your own dog. Above, Charlie Bucket and his owner, Stephen Holland. PAGE C1